

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22896C1

Pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code Section 31-3501, it is the policy of the State of Idaho that each person is responsible for his or her own medical costs, including the purchase of insurance. It is further the requirement of the Affordable Care Act that individuals are obligated to purchase insurance and are given a cash incentive to accomplish that requirement.

Because of the state and federal requirement to purchase insurance, this legislation would limit the responsibility of the State Catastrophic Health Care Cost Program and the County Medical Indigency Program established in Chapter 35, Title 31, Idaho Code, to cover only those individuals whose income is below 100% of the federal poverty level, as calculated in the Affordable Care Act. In order to be eligible for the state and county programs, an applicant still must meet all the requirements of Chapter 35, Title 31, Idaho Code.

FISCAL NOTE

Base upon an estimated 1,300 cases annually, approximately 42% of those cases would exceed the poverty level. This would translate into a savings to the State General Fund of approximately \$12 million and nearly \$6 million to the counties.

Contact:

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